

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A flame effect electric fire comprising:
  - i) a housing having at least first and second opposing external side panels, a top external panel and an opposing bottom underside external panel, wherein the first side panel of the housing is adapted to be mounted on a substantially plane wall;
  - ii) heating means disposed in the housing operative to draw air into the housing, heat the air and expel the heated air; and
  - iii) a flame simulating assembly mounted in the housing and comprising:
    - (a) a light source;
    - (b) a viewing screen on the second side panel capable of diffusing and transmitting light;
    - (c) a rear reflecting means disposed behind the viewing screen; and
    - (d) means for producing moving beams of light, wherein the light source is disposed below the reflecting means and behind the viewing screen, the means for producing moving beams of light is disposed in front of the light source and below the screen and light from the light source is reflected by the means for producing moving beams of light onto the reflecting means and is reflected by the reflecting means onto the screen to produce a perceptible image viewable on the screen, and wherein the heating means expels air in a generally vertically downward direction through an air expulsion aperture in ~~[[an]]~~ the underside external panel of the housing.
3. (Original) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 wherein the light source comprises at least one halogen bulb or tungsten filament bulb having a maximum

external dimension of not more than about 40mm.

4. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 wherein light from the light source is prevented from falling directly onto the viewing screen by means of a baffle mounted above the light source.

5. (Currently Amended) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 further comprising an additional reflector ~~wherein behind the light source is between the additional reflector and the rear reflecting means.~~ wherein behind the light source

6. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2, wherein the light source has a width of not more than about 35mm.

7. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 4 wherein the light source has a width of not more than about 15mm.

8. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 wherein the means for producing moving beams of light comprises a shaft mounted substantially horizontally for rotation about its axis, said shaft having a plurality of generally radially directed pieces of reflective material depending therefrom, said pieces being effective to reflect light from the light source onto the screen.

9. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 8 wherein the shaft is driveably connected at a first end thereof via a flexible bushing to a drive means operative to rotate the shaft and is releasably retained at a second end thereof in a supporting bracket, the supporting bracket having a slot therein adjacent the second end of the shaft, the first end of the shaft being configured to be retained by the flexible bushing when the second end is released from the supporting bracket via the slot in the supporting bracket, and the shaft being displaceable from its operative position on release of its second end by

flexure of the flexible bushing, thereby to permit access to the light source.

10. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for producing a visual effect for simulating flames comprising:

- i) a light source;
- ii) a simulated fuel bed;
- iii) a viewing screen mounted about the fuel bed capable of diffusing and transmitting light and comprising a partially reflective front surface whereby an image of the fuel bed may be seen in the viewing screen;
- iv) means for producing moving beams of light, wherein:
  - a) light from the light source is reflected by the means for producing moving beams of light directly and/or indirectly onto the viewing screen to produce a perceptible image viewable on the screen; and
  - b) the means for producing moving beams of light comprises a shaft mounted for rotation about its axis and having a reflective material mounted thereon for reflecting light from the light source, the shaft is driveably connected at a first end thereof via a flexible bushing to a drive means operative to rotate the shaft and is releasably retained at a second end thereof in a supporting bracket, the first end of the shaft being configured to be retained by the flexible bushing when the second end is released from the supporting bracket and the shaft being displaceable from its operative position on release of its second end by flexure of the flexible bushing, thereby to permit access to the light source.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 wherein the rear reflecting means comprises a sheet of material having reflecting regions and non-reflecting regions.

13. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 12 wherein the reflecting regions are generally flame shaped.

14. (Previously Presented) A flame effective electric fire as claimed in claim 2 wherein the rear reflecting means has a concave reflecting surface.

15. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a simulated fuel bed disposed directly in front of the diffusing and transmitting screen.

16. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 15 wherein the screen comprises a reflective front surface configured such that a reflection of the fuel bed can be seen in the screen.

17. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 further comprising mounting means for mounting the flame effect fire on a wall.

18. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 10 further comprising mounting means for mounting the flame effect fire on a wall.

19. (Previously Presented) A flame effect electric fire as claimed in claim 2 further comprising an air intake aperture in the underside external panel of the housing, wherein the heating means is configured to draw air into the housing through the air intake aperture in the underside external panel of the housing and to expel the heated air through the air expulsion aperture in the underside external panel of the housing.

Attorney Docket No. 9052-218  
Application Serial No. 10/528,711  
Filed: October 18, 2005  
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20. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the supporting bracket has a slot therein adjacent the second end of the shaft and the second end of the shaft is released from the supporting bracket via the slot.